GENERAL VIEW

OF THE

AGRICULTURE

OF THE

CARSE OF GOWRIE,

IN THE

COUNTY OF PERTH.

WITH

OBSERVATIONS ON THE MEANS OF ITS IMPROVEMENT.

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DRAWN UP FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

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G.R. III.
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TO THE READER.

IT is requeſted that this paper, may be returned to the Board of Agriculture, at its Office in London, with any additional remarks and obſervations which may occur on the peruſal, *written on the margin*, as ſoon as may be convenient.

It is hardly neceſſary to add, that this Report is, at preſent, printed and circulated, for the purpoſe merely, of procuring farther information reſpecting the huſbandry and internal improvements of this diſtrict, and of enabling every one, to contribute his mite to the improvement of the country.

The Board has adopted the ſame plan, in regard to all the other counties in the united kingdom; and will be happy to give every aſſiſtance in its power, to any perſon, who may be deſirous of improving his breed of cattle, ſheep, &c. or of trying any uſeful experiment in Huſbandry.

LONDON, MARCH 1794.

TO THE READER

INTRODUCTION.

Extent.—THIS fertile tract is ſituated within the fifty-ſeventh deg. of north latitude. It extends from eaſt to weſt along the north ſhore of the Frith of Tay, its ſouthern boundary, ſixteen meaſured miles in length.

The County of Perth, by an act of parliament paſſed in 1785, for regulating the ſtatute labour, was divided into diſtricts, and to the plain of the Carſe of Gowrie was added conſiderable extent of the higher grounds on the north, which therefore falls along with the plain to be comprehended in this Report.

Taking its mean breadth at ſix miles, and its length as above mentioned, gives ninety-ſix ſquare miles; that is, 61,440 Engliſh acres, or 48,864 Scotch acres, of which number the plain contains about eighteen thouſand acres, in general of an extremely rich and fertile clay ſoil.

The banks or *braes* of the Carſe ſloping gently with a ſouthern aſpect, contain nearly ſeven thouſand acres of a deep hazle coloured loam. In the higher part of the diſtrict there may be 5 000 acres of a ſharp gravelly ſoil under cultivation. The remainder conſiſts of paſturage, and of grounds inacceſſible to the plough, a conſiderable part of which is covered with plantations of oak, beech, aſh, ſycamore, elm, larix, and Scotch fir.

Climate.—There is no country in Scotland, which enjoys a climate ſo mild and favourable to vegetation as this. The chain of hills, ſtretching almoſt from Aberbrothock to Perth, riſes high above the moſt elevated part of the diſtrict, and forms a moſt complete ſhelter from the northerly winds. It

is alſo ſcreened from the winds of the eaſtern ſea, by the hills of Angus and Fife, which are ſeparated from each other only by the breadth of the Frith, in its courſe between the town of Dundee and the ocean; and while there is little cauſe to complain of the want of rain, the froſt and ſnow are ſo moderate, that the operations of huſbandry are continued almoſt without interruption throughout the year.

Rivers.—The Frith of Tay is navigable for trading veſſels above the limits of the diſtrict now under review, on the ſhores of which there are many commodious harbours, formed at the influx of the different ſtreams which run acroſs the plain. The Tay is alſo of great importance to the country on account of its ſalmon fiſhings.

TOWNS, POPULATION, AND MANUFACTURES.

THIS diſtrict is divided into nine pariſhes, viz. Longforgan, Inchſture, Abernyte, Kinnaird, Kilſpendie, Errol, St. Madoes, Kinfauns,and part of Kinnoul; in each of which there are conſiderable villages, particularly thoſe of Errol, Longforgan, Inchſture, and Ballegarno, which may contain from fifty to two hundred houſes in each.

The number of the inhabitants in the diſtrict amounts to ſeven thouſand eight hundred. The people are for the moſt part employed in agriculture, though in all the villages there are a conſiderable number employed in the manufacture of Oznaburgs, and a coarſe kind of linen afterwards made into buckram and hat linings. It appea rs, that on an averageof the laſt ſeven years, there have been annually ſtamped, at Inchſture and Errol, 260,000 yards of theſe goods, which were manufactured in the diſtrict, and which, at eight-pence the yard, the medium price, amounts to 8,666l. 13s. 4d. It further appears, that this ſpecies of manufacture is on the increaſe

creaſe, and it is worthy of remark, that the coarſe linen is made from flax cultivated in the diſtrict.

YEARLY VALUE AND MANAGEMENT OF ESTATES.

THIS diſtrict is ſhared among forty proprietors, four of whoſe eſtates here amount to from 3000l. to 7000l. of yearly rent. Six have property from 1000l. to 2000l. There are eight who poſſeſs from 500l. to 1000l. a year, and all the reſt are below 500l. down to 30l. of yearly rent. The annual revenue may be ſtated as follows:

	£.
Land rent, - - - - -	31,200
Salmon fiſhings, - - -	3,250
Orchards, - - - - -	550
For oaks, aſh, and other trees annually ſold,	500
Total, - -	£35,500.

Almoſt the whole of the proprietors reſide in the country, and the connection between landlord and tenant ſtands on the moſt friendly footing.

A conſiderable proportion of the lands of this diſtrict having been let previous to the year 1776, before the ideas of improvement roſe ſo high, are yet rented only at from twenty to thirty ſhillings the Scotch acre, and generally on leaſes of nineteen years, and the life-time of the tenant after the expiry of that period.

The leaſes now commonly granted are of endurance for nineteen years. The commencement takes place in ſome caſes at the term of Whitſunday as to the houſes and garden, and to the arable land after ingathering the crop; and in others at the term of Martinmas to the whole premiſes.

The rent generally ſtipulated is one half boll of wheat, one

half boll of barley, and about twenty-five ſhillings in money, for each acre. The grain is paid about the beginning of February, and the money rent at Whitſunday thereafter. When the whole rent is paid in money, the one half is paid at Whitſunday after reaping the crop, and the other half at Martinmas thereafter.

In the higher part of the country the rent is generally paid in money, and runs from fourteen to fifteen ſhillings the acre, for unincloſed land. When the lands are incloſed and ſubdivided with ſtone fences, the rent may be about twenty-five ſhillings the acre.

The average rent of the arable land, over the whole diſtrict, which has been let within theſe ten years, may be about thirty ſhillings the acre, including the lands adjoining to the villages.

The only ſervice performed by the tenant is the carriage of a certain quantity of coals to the landlord's houſe yearly.

The tenants are further bound to have all the drains, connected with their farms, cleaned out once every year before the end of Auguſt; or on their neglect, the landlords reſerve a right of having it done at the tenant's expence. In the higher parts of the diſtrict, where ſeveral of the farms are incloſed and ſubdivided with ſtone fences, the proprietor becomes bound in the leaſe, to be at one half of the expence of repairing the fences, and at the ſame time reſerves a power to himſelf to order ſuch repairs as he may judge neceſſary, and as often as there may be occaſion.

Free-ſtone, coal, and other minerals are reſerved, and a right of working them, upon paying any damage that may be done to the ſurface of the grounds, and as the ſame ſhall be aſcertained by two men to be mutually choſen. The tenant is alſo bound to preſerve any growing timber that may be on the farm, and the landlord very often reſerves a liberty of reſuming poſſeſſion of ſome acres of the farm, for the purpoſe of planting, at any period during the leaſe, and at a ſtipulated

rent.

rent. The tenant is generally debarred from ſelling any fodder off the farm, hay and wheat ſtraw-thatch only excepted; he is alſo bound to reſide on the farm.

When regular modes for cropping the farm are not ſpecified in the leaſe, which has, however, become the general practice, the tenants are by their leaſes debarred from what is here called *croſs cropping*; that is, from ſowing oats after oats, wheat after oats, or oats after wheat.

EXTENT AND MODE OF MANAGING THE FARMS.

THERE are only three farmers who rent to the extent of five hundred arable acres. About one third of the whole diſtrict is poſſeſſed in farms of from 100 to 300 acres, and the remainder is occupied in ſmall farms, from 30 to 100 acres, excluſive of the lands which are let in ſmall lots to the inhabitants of the different villages.

Previous to the year 1735, even this fertile tract, from want of proper management, was, in compariſon of its preſent ſtate, aſtoniſhingly unproductive; being on many places overrun with ruſhes, disfigured by pools of water, at that time the uſual haunt of lapwings; and the whole people ſubject to the ague. In thoſe days, the mode of management was the ſame here as was then generally practiſed all over the kingdom; the arable land being divided into what they called outfield and infield. The outfield was cultivated as long as it produced three or four bolls the acre, and afterwards allowed to lie ſome years in natural paſture, when it was again ſubjected to the plough. The infield, which conſiſted of that part of the farm neareſt to the farm-houſes, and to which the whole dung was regularly applied, was generally cropped in four diviſions; one fourth being under wheat, one fourth under barley, one fourth under oats, and the other fourth under peaſe and beans; and in general produced very tolerable crops.

About this period, Mr. Hay of Leyes, ſet about the improvement of his eſtate, which he began by ſummer fallow, draining, ſowing graſs ſeeds, and rebuilding the houſes and offices. The lime-rubbiſh of the old buildings having been ſpread on the corner of a field, firſt diſcovered the effect of this powerful manure; and ſuggeſted to this gentleman the mode of application, now generally adopted. The ſucceſs of his practice becoming ſoon conſpicuous, his example was followed by Mr. Crauford, on his eſtate of Monorgan; and by ſeveral of the moſt intelligent farmers in the diſtrict, and their ſucceſs rapidly diffuſed a ſpirit for improvement among all ranks over the whole Carſe, which has now arrived at a greater height than, perhaps, any other quarter of the kingdom, and the ruſhes, lapwings, and ague, have long ſince diſappeared.

In this diſtrict, where agriculture is now reduced to a greater regularity of ſyſtem than is, perhaps, to be found in any other country, the mode of cultivation and rotation of crops are, as has been obſerved, in general aſcertained by the leaſe.

The farms on the low Carſe are claſſed into ſix diviſions, as nearly equal as the nature of the grounds will permit; and the following rotation is that which is moſt generally approved of:

1. year ſummer fallow, the land dunged.
2. —— wheat.
3. —— peaſe, or peaſe and beans.
4. —— barley, with 20 or 24 lb. red clover, and 1 buſhel rye-graſs.
5. —— clover.
6. —— oats.

On the banks or braes of the Carſe a rotation ſomewhat different, by which fallow is entirely excluded, has been lately adopted, and which is as follows:

1. year

1. year peaſe, or other green crop, the land dunged.
2. —— wheat.
3. —— barley, 20lb. red clover, and half a buſhel rye-graſs.
4. —— clover.
5. —— oats.

In the higher and more expoſed parts of the diſtrict, particularly where the lands are incloſed and ſubdivided with ſtone fences, and where the ſoil and climate are conſidered as better adapted for raiſing graſs than corn, the following is conſidered as the beſt rotation of crops:

1. year turnip or other green crop, the land dunged.
2. —— barley with 8lb. red clover, 8lb. white do. 4lb. rib-graſs, and 1½ or 2 buſhels rye-graſs.
3. —— graſs, generally made into hay.
4. —— ditto paſtured.
5. —— ditto ditto.
6. —— ditto ditto.
7. —— oats.
8. —— barley.

Wheat—in the low Carſe is, for the moſt part, ſown after a ſummer fallow: the firſt ploughing is given in autumn, the ſecond in May, and two or three more afterwards, as may be neceſſary. In the month of July, lime, at the rate of thirty or forty bolls ſhells, wheat meaſure, is generally applied to the acre after being reduced to powdered lime. The land is then ploughed very ſhallow, and before the laſt ploughing for the ſeed is given, the dung produced by the cattle fed in the ſtraw-yard, without mixture of any other ſubſtance, is carried to the field, and thirty loads of a cart which will hold four and a half bolls lime-ſhells, barley meaſure, laid on the acre, in the end of Auguſt. After the dung is ploughed in, the ſeed, at the rate of ten or twelve pecks, wheat meaſure, is ſown on the acre.

When

When wheat ſucceeds peaſe, or other green crop, as ſoon as the preceding crop is carried off the land, dung at the rate above mentioned is laid on the acre; and after the land is ploughed, from fourteen to ſixteen pecks of ſeed are ſown on the acre, generally about the end of September.

When wheat ſucceeds clover, which often happens on thoſe farms in the Carſe, where regular rotations of cropping are not adopted, one ploughing ſuffices, which is always given immediately before ſowing, when one boll of ſeed is commonly ſown on the acre. The ſpecies of wheat moſt generally cultivated, are the Eſſex, or common white wheat; the old red, and a kind known here by the name of brown wheat, growing browniſh in the chaff, but white in the grain.

Peaſe and Beans—are ſometimes cultivated together, and ſometimes ſeparately. The land is ploughed in the ſpring. When the peaſe are ſown alone, about ſix firlots of ſeed are allowed to the acre, and of the beans two bolls, and ſometimes nine firlots. They are always ſown broad-caſt. The early pea here, called Haſtings, is ſometimes cultivated, and is always ſucceeded by a crop of wheat.

This crop is more uncertain in the produce than any of the two preceding; in ſome caſes, growing all to the ſtraw; and in others very deficient in ſtraw, but very abundant in grain.

Oats—are cultivated here nearly in the ſame proportion with the other ſpecies of grain; they are always ſown after graſs: the land is ploughed once, ſometimes in autumn, and ſometimes in ſpring, according to the ſeaſon; and four firlots and two pecks are generally ſown on the acre. The kinds moſt approved of are thoſe from the Grange of Bothrie, and the Skrone, in Angus. They are conſidered as beſt adapted to the ſoil and climate, and meal well, as will be more particularly mentioned hereafter.

Barley—is either ſown after peaſe, beans, turnips, or oats, and always without dung. The land is generally ploughed three times, viz. in autumn, after the oat-ſeed is finiſhed; and immediately before ſowing. The quantity of ſeed to the acre is from thirteen to fifteen pecks. The common Scotch barley is generally cultivated here; Engliſh barley has been introduced, but has been found not to anſwer. The crops are more precarious, and the quality of the grain always degenerates.

Turnips.—There are few farms in the low parts of the Carſe where this crop can be cultivated. But on the banks or braes of the Carſe, and in the higheſt parts of the diſtrict, they are raiſed in conſiderable quantities.

The land is generally ploughed three times, and the ſeed is ſown from the 13th to the 25th of June. The crop is commonly conſumed in feeding cattle for the butcher; which, in this diſtrict, owing to the vicinity of the towns of Perth and Dundee, generally meet a ready market.

Potatoes—are cultivated on every farm in the diſtrict; and when the quantity raiſed is more than ſufficient for the ſupply of the inhabitants, they are either ſold in the towns of Perth and Dundee, or conſumed by ſwine in the farm-yard. They are always planted in drills, and repeatedly horſe hoed. The kidney potatoe is here conſidered the beſt, and is conſequently the moſt generally cultivated. They are planted from the 1ſt of April to the middle of May; but it has been obſerved, that the quality of the potatoe depends greatly on the time of planting, that which is planted early in the ſeaſon always producing a dry, and what is here called a *mealy* crop.

Artificial Graſſes.—In no part of the kingdom are there to be found more weighty crops of graſs than are generally

to

to be ſeen in this diſtrict: they are raiſed after barley, and ſometimes after oats; and though this crop, like every other depends greatly on the ſeaſon, yet it is not uncommon to ſee three luxuriant cuttings carried off the ſame field in a ſeaſon, between the firſt of June and the firſt of October. Part of the firſt cutting is always made into hay, the remainder is either conſumed by the horſes in the ſtable, and the cattle in the ſtraw-yard, or diſpoſed of to the inhabitants of the adjoining villages, as provender for their cows. It has been generally underſtood that four-pence per ſtone for hay, weighed from what is here called the *tramp cole*, in the field, in the month of Auguſt or September, was as good a price as ſix-pence per ſtone, when weighed from the ſtack in the month of February or March. A farmer in this diſtrict, Mr. Robert Webſter, at Mains of Errol, part of Mr. Yeaman of Muirie's eſtate, whoſe character is well known for accuracy and attention in making experiments of this kind, weighed 400 ſtone of new made hay from the *tramp cole* in the field, in Auguſt laſt, which he built by itſelf in the ſtack-yard; and in this month (February) he re-weighed it, when the weight was aſcertained to be 376 ſtone, the inlake being twenty-four ſtone or ſix per cent. This is a fact which certainly deſerves to be made generally known, as the opinion that hay inlakes nearly one third in weight in five or ſix months after it is made, is not peculiar to this diſtrict, but prevails all over Scotland. Mr. Webſter alſo, at the ſame time, weighed other 400 ſtone of hay from the field, with an intention to re-weigh it about Whitſunday; Candlemas and Whitſunday being the periods when hay is moſt ſaleable here after loſing the firſt market. It is only neceſſary to add, that Mr. Webſter will cheerfully communicate the reſult of this ſecond experiment to the Board of Agriculture, or to any gentleman who may be anxious to have it aſcertained.

Flax

Flax—is here cultivated, though in ſmall quantities, on every farm, and when ſold before pulling, which very often happens, gives from nine to twelve pounds the acre. The quantity raiſed annually in the diſtrict, may be about 5,700 ſtone, which at ten ſhillings and ſix-pence the ſtone, (the medium price) amounts to 2,992l. 10s. A conſiderable proportion is manufactured for the uſe of the inhabitants, and the remainder diſpoſed of in the manner already mentioned.

Orchards.—There are upwards of twenty orchards in this diſtrict. The moſt extenſive and valuable are thoſe of Monorgan and Seaſide. The fruit, conſiſting of apples and pears of all the various kinds, are partly ſold in the neighbouring towns, and the remainder is exported to Montroſe, Aberdeen, and other parts on the north-eaſt coaſt of Scotland.

In place of mentioning the periods at which ſeed-time and harveſt commence in the diſtrict, in different parts of this Report, or the returns of the various ſpecies of crops, it has been judged more correct to ſtate them in ſeparate tables; and the journals of one particular farm having been inſpected for aſcertaining actually the periods of ſeed-time and harveſt, for the laſt ſix years; and alſo the returns, by the acre, of each ſpecies of crops, the following tables are formed from theſe journals, periods at which ſeed-time and harveſt commenced on a particular farm in the Carſe of Gowrie, for ſix years, from 1788 to 1793 incluſive.

Years.	Wheat.	Spring Corn.	Barley.	Harveſt commenced.	do. finiſhed reaping.
1788	11 Sept.	7 April	6 May	25 Aug.	16 Sept.
1789	11 ditto	6 ditto	9 ditto	27 ditto	19 ditto.
1790	13 ditto	3 March	6 ditto	27 ditto	19 ditto.
1791	14 ditto	7 ditto	4 ditto	18 ditto	10 ditto.
1792	4 Oct.	9 April	7 ditto	29 ditto	23 ditto.
1793	10 Sept.	25 March	3 ditto	28 ditto	26 ditto.

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE, OF EACH SPECIES OF CROP, ON A FARM IN THE CARSE OF GOWRIE, FOR SIX YEARS, COMMENCING WITH CROP 1787, AND INCLUDING CROP 1792; AND ALSO THE AVERAGE PRICES AT WHICH THEY WERE SOLD IN EACH OF THESE YEARS.

Crops.	Wheat.						Barley.						Oats.					
In years.	Average produce per acre.			Average price per boll.			Average produce per acre.			Average price per boll.			Average produce per acre.			Average price per boll.		
	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.
1787	6	3	0	1	2	1¾	6	3	0¾	0	14	5¼	9	0	0¼	0	14	9
1788	7	1	0½	1	1	10¼	9	3	3¼	0	13	2	11	2	0½	0	12	10
1789	9	1	0½	1	3	6½	6	3	3½	0	16	8	9	1	1	0	15	9
1790	6	3	0¼	1	2	1½	8	1	3	0	15	5	11	1	0½	0	14	8¼
1791	7	3	0¼	1	0	7½	10	1	0	0	18	0½	10	0	3	0	15	2
1792	7	2	3½	1	2	0½	5	1	0	0	19	6¾	8	0	0	0	16	9½
Div. by 6,	45	2	1	6	12	4	47	2	2½	4	17	3½	59	1	1¼	4	9	11¾
Gen. aver.	7	2	1½	1	2	0⅔	7	3	3	0	16	2½	9	3	2¼	0	15	0

Crops.	Peaſe and Beans.						Early Peaſe.						Total.			Potatoes.					
In years.	Average produce per acre.			Average price per boll.			Average produce per acre.			Average price per boll.			Average of grain.			Average produce per meaſured boll.			Average price per boll.		
	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.	B.	F.	P.	B.	F.	P.	£.	S.	D.
1787	7	3	2¼	0	12	9½	None.						7	1	1½	54	1	0	not ſtated		
1788	6	2	0	0	10	9¾	None.						8	0	2½	75	2	0	0	4	8¼
1789	5	3	0¼	0	14	9¾	None.						8	0	1	62	0	0	0	4	7½
1790	6	3	1¼	0	14	1	4	0	2	Price, ſame as peaſe & beans.	0	14	1	8	0	0	48	0	0	0	6	0
1791	11	1	1	0	12	9	13	1	1¼		0	12	9	9	0	2	70	0	0	0	4	2½
1792	5	0	0	0	18	6	2	3	1¼		0	18	6	6	1	1½	53	0	0	0	8	1¼
Div. by 6,	43	1	0¾	4	3	9	20	1	0½	0	0	0	47	0	0½	362	3	0	1	7	7½
Gen. aver.	7	1	0	0	13	11½	6	3	0	0	13	11½	7	3	1½	60	2	0	0	5	6¼

Crops.	Hay.				Flax.			
In years.	Average produce per acre.	Average price per ſtone.			Average produce per acre.	Average price per ſtone.		
	Stone.	£.	S.	D.	Stone.	£.	S.	D.
1787	200	0	0	6	13	0	12	0
1788	100	0	0	5	16	0	12	0
1789	266	0	0	7	26¼	0	12	0
1790	83	0	0	6	18¼	0	12	0
1791	200	0	0	6¼	13½	0	12	0
1792	187	0	1	0	34½	0	12	0
Div. by 6,	1036	0	3	6¼	121½	3	12	0
Gen. aver.	172⅔	0	0	7	20¼	0	12	0

N. B. It ſhould be remarked here, that the above average return from the acre, is upon a farm not under a regular rotation of cropping, and therefore the general average of the crops is conſiderably leſs than it would have been, had the farm been cropped in ſix parts, as formerly mentioned.

The boll of wheat weighs fourteen ſtone Amſterdam; barley, eighteen ſtone; oats, from fourteen ſtone to fourteen ſtone and a half; and peaſe and beans, from thirteen to fourteen ſtone.

IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY.

ABOUT thirty years ago the old Scotch plough was in faſhion, drawn either by two horſes and four oxen, or four horſes and two oxen. The timber mall which was worked by the people on the farm, ſupplied the place of a roller. The dung cart and the harrow were ſimilar to thoſe generally uſed all over the country. The ploughs, carts, harrows, rollers, and all implements at preſent uſed in the field, are now framed on the beſt and moſt ſubſtantial conſtruction known in the iſland, on which a quantity of iron is annually conſumed, that would have been thought incredible, and totally impoſſible, by the fathers of the preſent huſbandmen.

When the fanners now uſed in every barn were firſt introduced, the acquiſition was deemed of the firſt importance; but though the inconvenience of being able to ſeparate the grain from the chaff at pleaſure, has by this implement been long removed, it is only of late, that any machine more powerful than the human arm, was ſo much as thought of, for ſeparating the corn from the ſtraw.

Although the greateſt part of the implements of huſbandry now in uſe ſeem to have been invented, or perfected, by the ingenuity of England, yet the merit of inventing the threſhing machine belongs entirely to her ſiſter kingdom of Scotland, and George Patterſon, Eſq. of Caſtle Huntly, was the firſt who introduced this great improvement into the Carſe of Gowrie, in the year 1787; prior to which period the expence of threſhing on many farms, from 500 to 2000 bolls of grain, had been moſt ſeverely felt; owing to the difficulty of finding labourers, and the waſte, by imperfect or careleſs performance, not to mention the embezzlement, in conſequence of the temptations to which the needy and the covetous are too ready to yield. By this moſt uſeful machine, to which the ſtrength of horſes, or the power of the

ſtream is applied, all thoſe evils are entirely remedied. The whole crop is threſhed by the ordinary ploughmen on the farm, without interrupting their ſervice in the field; and while the grain, by very little attention, is moſt completely forced from the ſtraw without the leaſt degree of waſte, the operation is performed in a ſpace of time ſo ſhort, as to be eaſily ſubjected to the owner's eye. With all theſe advantages, it will not appear ſurpriſing that, notwithſtanding the great expence of erecting them, threſhing mills ſhould now be commonly found in a diſtrict, where ſuch quantities of grain are annually produced. The whole number of them at preſent amounts to ſixty-one, and muſt have coſt, on the whole, nearly 5000l. ſterling, in this narrow diſtrict. It is only neceſſary to add, that the expence, on an average, including the building of the ſhade, (the roof of which is in general of foreign timber) may be about 80l. ſterling, and that from four to ten bolls of grain are threſhed in the hour.

FARM HOUSES AND OFFICES.

PREVIOUS to the year 1775, theſe were in general but rudely conſtructed; the dwelling-houſe, as well as the offices, being built of mud or clay, and the whole covered with ſtraw. About that time, Lord Kinnaird having granted new leaſes over the greateſt part of his eſtate, to ſubſtantial and intelligent farmers, and having alſo given them proper encouragement for erecting good houſes, they ſoon afterwards built houſes and offices upon regular plans, and of the moſt ſubſtantial workmanſhip.

The farm houſes, over the whole diſtrict, are now in every reſpect commodious, ſubſtantial, and well ſet down. The dwelling-houſe is of two ſtories, built of ſtone and lime, or brick covered with ſlate, well finiſhed, and clean and neat within. The offices are alſo generally built of ſtone and lime,

lime, and either ſlated, or covered with the moſt durable and ſolid kind of thatch.

When it became neceſſary, of late, to rebuild the houſes, the landlords in general laid out the whole expence, which, in many caſes, amounted to from 300 to 500 pounds; the tenant being burdened with the carriage of the materials, and to leave the houſes of equal value at his removal. Where repairs only were neceſſary, the extent was aſcertained by valuators, mutually choſen by the landlord and tenant, and the ſum required was advanced by the landlord, on the terms mentioned above; and, where the houſes ſtood complete, their value being aſcertained, in the manner above-mentioned, the tenant enters into the poſſeſſion of them, with no other obligation, than that of maintaining them in proper repair, during the currency of the leaſe, and of leaving them of equal value at his removal; and for ſecuring this, it has of late become a general clauſe in the leaſe, that the tenant ſhall, at his own expence, inſure the houſes from any damage by fire.

The houſes in the different villages were alſo, at the period above mentioned, very paultry and mean. Of late, however, ſeveral of the proprietors have expended very conſiderable ſums, in erecting commodious and ſubſtantial houſes for the inhabitants; and the villages of Errol, Balledgarno, and Longforgan, in place of being a deformity, have now become an ornament to the country.

LABOURERS, AND THE PRICE OF LABOUR.

THOUGH this diſtrict is perhaps as cloſely inhabited, and as well peopled as any other of the ſame extent in Scotland, where no large manufacturing towns are ſituated, and though the great body of the people are employed in huſbandry, yet it is certain that the price of labour has, in the courſe of

of the laſt thirteen years, riſen to nearly double what it was before that period; nor could the extra works, ſuch as turnpike roads, planting, incloſing, draining, &c. be carried on but by the means of ſtrangers, of which a conſiderable number come here every ſpring from Inverneſs-ſhire, and other northern counties, each of whom returns to his own country about Martinmas, with eight or ten pounds in his pocket. There is no doubt but the young people of both ſexes, in this diſtrict, are induced to go into the manufacturing towns of Perth and Dundee, in conſequence of the high wages they receive; and therefore, though it is evident that the vicinity of theſe towns is advantageous to this diſtrict in point of ready markets, yet it is alſo evident, that the ſame cauſe has tended to raiſe the price of labour very conſiderably.

The wages of a ploughman, or farm ſervant, is from eight to ten pound ſterling, with ſix bolls and an half of oat-meal, at eight ſtone Amſterdam, and one ſhilling and ſixpence a year for ſalt: thoſe of female ſervants, from three to four pounds, with maintenance in the family. The wages of a man for harveſt work, which is generally accompliſhed by the labour of twenty days, amounts to one pound five ſhillings; and that of a woman, to ſeventeen ſhillings. In ſummer, a day-labourer earns from twelve to fourteen-pence, when employed by the day, without victuals; in harveſt, one ſhilling, with his victuals; and in winter, ten-pence, without victuals.

The proprietors and farmers in this diſtrict prefer getting work done by the piece, rather than by day wages.

Corns are threſhed, where there are no threſhing mills, at from eight-pence to ten-pence per boll.

Hay is cut by the acre, from two to three ſhillings, according to the crop.

Open drains, three feet deep, four feet wide at top, and one

one foot at bottom, coſt eight-pence or nine-pence the ſix Scotch ells.

Covered drains, two feet and a half deep, and eighteen inches broad at top, and fourteen inches at bottom, coſt about two ſhillings the ſix Scotch ells, which includes caſting the drain, collecting, and carting the ſtones, putting them into the drain, and covering them up.

Large drains are caſt at three half pence the cubic yard, and earth is wheeled at two-pence the cubic yard, if only moved thirty yards; if above that, the price increaſes according to the diſtance.

Land is trenched at three pounds the acre, or four-pence the rood.

Corns are cut by the acre at the rate of five or ſix ſhillings, as there is a greater or leſs proportion of the farm under wheat.

Fences built of whin-ſtone, four feet high, have lately been erected at the following rate: For quarrying the ſtone, 7s. 6d. for building, 7s. 6d. and for carriage of materials, 12s. amounting in all to 1l. 7s. for thirty-ſix running ells. But the expence of this work muſt always depend upon the nature of the quarry and the diſtance of carriage; and it is preſumed, that, on an average, the incloſing the high part of this diſtrict with ſubſtantial ſtone walls might coſt about one ſhilling the ell, every expence included.

In order to give a more correct idea of the expence of management of a farm in the Carſe of Gowrie, there is annexed an account of the actual expence incurred on the particular farm above-mentioned, in which no charge is made for the maintenance of the farmer's own family. It is only neceſſary, further, to add, that a farm of 300 acres will require fully 1,500l. for ſtocking, or 5l. each acre.

The ploughmen get up in winter by the dawn of day, and are employed in the ſtable till nine o'clock, in feeding and cleaning, each his own pair of horſes; after breakfaſt, the

ploughs, or carts, are in employment for the remainder the day, reſerving only as much light as may ſuffice for repeating the operation of feeding and cleaning the horſes. When the more buſy ſeaſon of the ſpring ſets in, the plough is more diligently plied, being under yoke from nine to ten hours, with a ſhort interval of an hour, about nine in the morning, and a ſimilar reſt about two o'clock. In the barley ſeed-time, and during the ſummer and harveſt months, the ploughmen get up by four in the morning; they are in the ſtable by five o'clock, and unyoking about ten, are employed in cutting graſs, and taking care of the horſes until two o'clock, when they again get under the yoke until ſeven at night.

The day labourer, as in other countries, begins at ſix in the morning, and gives over at the ſame hour in the evening, in ſummer, working for about the ſpace of ten hours.

It has been already obſerved, that the farm ſervants receive ſix bolls and a half of oat-meal, and 1s. 6d. for ſalt, beſides their wages. They ſeldom or never eat in the farmer's family. There is a houſe adjoining to the offices, allotted for them, in which they lodge and eat. The farmer affords them fuel, and beſides the allowance above mentioned, they receive an Engliſh pint of ſweet milk, or double that quantity of butter-milk, to breakfaſt, dinner, and ſupper; ſo that oat-meal with milk, which they cook in different ways, is their conſtant food, three times a day, throughout the year, Sundays and holidays included; the quantity of meal allowed being thirty-ſix ounces to each man a day.

The food of the reapers conſiſts of bread and ſmall-beer for breakfaſt and dinner; and for ſupper, pottage of oat-meal, ſalt and water, with the allowance of milk made to the ploughman.

The farmer ſends a quantity of meal to the bake-houſe, which is returned, at the rate of twelve loaves from each eight pounds of meal, which affords breakfaſt for twelve reapers,

reapers, with the addition of two Engliſh pints of beer to each; and for dinner, three pints are allowed to the ſame quantity of bread.

When the farm ſervants are employed in carting the corn to the ſtack yard (for here they are never employed in reaping), they are maintained along with the reapers, and their allowance of meal proportionably deducted. Eſtimating the meal at one ſhilling the peck, with one half-penny for baking, the beer at three-pence, for eight Engliſh pints, with one half-penny for milk, the expence of maintaining a reaper, for one day, amounts to ſix-pence three-farthings.

All this œconomy, regarding the maintenance of ſervants, has been more particularly detailed, becauſe it is obvious, that where a number of them are employed, all murmuring and diſcontent on account of diet is avoided, of which the farmers in other countries have ſuch reaſon to complain, as the caprice of a ſingle individual, reſpecting the quality of his food, often breeds a ferment in the family: and the modes of diet, in the families of more opulent farmers, are by this means obtruded upon their poorer neighbours, and extravagance in the maintenance of this claſs is from year to year increaſed. It is alſo obvious, that while both parties in this country are better ſatisfied, the expence, upon the whole, all circumſtances taken into account, muſt be very conſiderably leſs. Perhaps therefore the practice of this country, in theſe reſpects, would be of ſervice in others, and might, by a proper concert among heritors and tenants, in a ſhort time be introduced; and this, beſides the advantage of a ſteady rotation in cropping, and diligent regularity in labour, ſuggeſts the propriety of recommending the practice of grinding the corns, which is now eſtabliſhed here, to the conſideration of other quarters of the kingdom.

In this diſtrict, the corn is carried from the farmer's barn to the mill, where it is wholely committed to the charge of the miller, as is the practice in ſome other countries with regard

to wheat, by whom it is dried and grinded, ſifted and weighed back into the ſacks, when it is either ſent directly to market by the miller, or returned to the farmer; and as each miller courts employment, the farmer often ſhares the quantity among two or more. Beſides the little interruption occaſioned by this mode, to the operations of the farm, it is obvious, that the multiplied expence of the kiln on each farm is ſaved, and the burdens of thirlage have been entirely removed. The floors of the kilns being iron, the huſks of the dried corn, or any kind of bruſhwood, ſerves for fuel; ſo that this whole manufacture is performed at the low rate of five per cent, or the twentieth boll, while the mill rent, in many caſes, excluſive of the rent of the farm, amounts to from twenty to thirty pounds ſterling. The boll of oats, weighing fourteen ſtone four pounds Amſterdam, gives eight ſtone of meal to the farmer, after paying the mill exactions, as above mentioned.

It is worthy of remark, that Mr. Patrick Jack, who rents the mill of Balledgarno from Lord Kinnaird, dried and grinded at that mill no leſs than 3005 bolls of oats, betwixt the beginning of harveſt and the firſt of January laſt.

MARKETS AND FAIRS.

THIS diſtrict is extremely well ſituated in regard to markets, having the populous manufacturing towns of Perth and Dundee in its vicinity, in each of which there are weekly markets every Friday, for the ſale of butcher meat, poultry, eggs, butter, cheeſe, and ſuch like; and to theſe weekly markets the farmers reſort in the proper ſeaſon to diſpoſe of their grain, which is either ſold for the uſe of the inhabitants, or to corn merchants, who export it to the Frith of Forth, Glaſgow, or the London market. The grain annually exported from the different ports in this diſtrict may be rated at 10,000 bolls of wheat,

wheat, 10,000 of barley, and 2,000 of peaſe and beans; and the remainder, which is much more conſiderable, is diſpoſed of in the towns of Perth and Dundee, either to merchants, who export it from thence; or to bakers and brewers, who manufacture it for the uſe of the inhabitants. The foregoing table ſhews the average prices at which the different ſpecies of grain have been ſold in the diſtrict, for the laſt ſix years; and the annexed ſtate of the fiars of the county will ſhew the prices in the country at large.

The price of proviſions has riſen amazingly within theſe few years. Butcher meat now ſells at three-pence and four-pence the pound; poultry one ſhilling and four-pence each; eggs ſix-pence to nine-pence the dozen; butter ten-pence the pound, and country-made cheeſe at five ſhillings the ſtone.

There are ſeveral fairs held in the different villages for the ſale of cattle, but they are of little note compared to thoſe in other parts of Perthſhire, and in the neighbouring county of Angus.

Manure.—The only artificial manure uſed here is lime, which was introduced ſoon after the improvement of this country began, by means of fallow, ſown graſs, &c. as has been already mentioned.

It appears from a correct ſtatement, that on an average of the laſt ſeven years, there have been annually imported into this diſtrict 24,000 bolls of lime ſhells, each boll meaſuring four firlots, wheat meaſure, which at one ſhilling and ſix-pence the boll makes the ſum expended by the proprietors and tenants for this ſpecies of manure amount to 1,800l. ſterling yearly, a circumſtance which evinces in the cleareſt manner to what a height improvements in agriculture are arrived in this diſtrict. The whole of the lime imported into the country is brought from the Frith of Forth and the north of England.

Shell marl was diſcovered on the eſtate of Caſtle Huntly; it was principally ſold by the proprietor, Mr. Patterſon, to

the tenants on his eſtate, or uſed for the improvement of his own farm, when in every inſtance it anſwered expectation; but the ſtock is exhauſted ſome years ago.

LIVE STOCK.

IN a country ſo well adapted for raiſing grain, and where the lands are ſo high rented, it cannot be ſuppoſed, that attention to the different breeds of ſtock is in general conſidered as of great importance.

Black Cattle.—It is only of late that the breed of black cattle has been attended to here, and indeed it is only on particular farms where any conſiderable number can be kept. The ſyſtem of huſbandry now generally adopted, requiring only a fifth or ſixth part of the farm to be in graſs, which only affords a ſmall quantity of hay and ſummer food for the work horſes and a few milch cows.

The general practice here is to purchaſe, in the months of September or October, ſuch a number of young cattle at the markets in the neighbourhood, as with the other ſtock is judged neceſſary to conſume the ſtraw before the beginning of the following May, at which period the cattle are generally diſpoſed of to the dealers or farmers in the neighbouring counties, where they are fed for ſome months on graſs, and afterwards diſpoſed of in England or the ſouth of Scotland. The profit ariſing from this mode of management is very variable, depending entirely on the ſale of cattle. But in general, from ten ſhillings to fifteen ſhillings is conſidered as a reaſonable allowance for keeping an ox from October to May. The milch cows, neceſſary to keep up the ſtock, are generally purchaſed in Angus and Fife, and give from four to ſix Engliſh gallons of milck a day. There are, however, ſeveral farmers on the low parts of the Carſe, who alſo poſſeſs farms

in

in the hilly part of the country. Theſe keep a breeding ſtock, ſending the young cattle to paſture on their graſs farm in ſummer, and bringing them home to the ſtraw-yard in winter. Thoſe farmers who poſſeſs this accommodation are very attentive to the raiſing of black cattle; but the breed may be conſidered as that of Angus or Fife, or a mixture of both, rather than a breed peculiar to this diſtrict.

Horſes.—It is little more than twenty years ſince two horſe ploughs were introduced into this diſtrict: before that period oxen ploughs were generally uſed, and the horſes were only employed to harrow in the ſeed, carry out the dung, and bring home the corns to the ſtack-yard. When the oxen were diſcharged from the plough, it became neceſſary to purchaſe larger horſes than were then bred in the country; and the markets of Glaſgow, Perth, &c. were reſorted to for that purpoſe, which practice ſtill continues, though not to ſo great an extent of late years as formerly, the very high price of horſes having induced the farmers to rear their own ſtock; and they appear ſo ſenſible of the advantages ariſing from this mode of management, that there is little doubt of its becoming general. A pair of plough horſes, which, ten years ago, could have been purchaſed for thirty pounds, will now coſt fifty pounds.

Conſidering the great ſums which are ſtill annually paid for horſes, it becomes an object well worthy the ſerious attention of the proprietors to encourage the rearing of this ſpecies of ſtock in the diſtrict, which, perhaps, might be moſt eaſily, and, at the ſame time, moſt effectually done, were they to purchaſe a few ſtallions of the beſt ſize and ſhape from Yorkſhire and Northumberland.

Sheep.—There is not one flock of ſheep in the diſtrict which are natives of the country. Mr. Mylne, of Mylnefield, has lately introduced a conſiderable number of the Northumber-

land breed; but as the value and properties of this ſpecies will be fully deſcribed in the Report of that county, it ſeems unneceſſary to extend this article here.

Swine.—There may be about 2000 hogs reared annually in this diſtrict. They are principally fed on clover in ſummer, and potatoes, and what corn they can pick up in the ſtraw-yard, in winter. Pork and bacon conſtitute a greater proportion of the food of the poorer inhabitants here than in any other part of Scotland, and there is ſcarcely a manufacturer, tradeſman, or labourer, who does not feed one or two pigs every year, for the uſe of his family. The remainder meet a ready ſale in the markets of Perth and Dundee. Young pigs ſell for five or ſix ſhillings, at ſix weeks old, and pork at four ſhillings to four ſhillings and ſix-pence the ſtone of ſixteen pounds Amſterdam.

WOODS AND PLANTATIONS.

BEFORE the improvements of this country occupied ſo much the attention of all ranks of the inhabitants, the proprietors were in the practice of planting the waſte grounds on their eſtates, even in the low part of the country, with Scotch fir; but of late years ſome hundred acres of theſe plantations have been rooted up, and the lands ſubjected to the plough. When the trees are cut down, and diſpoſed of, the land is let to farmers, manufacturers, or tradeſmen, and often at the rate of twenty ſhillings the acre.

There are extenſive thriving plantations of all the various kinds of foreſt trees, in different parts of the diſtrict, which, added to the ornamental plantations around the proprietors houſes, and the trees about the villages and along the banks of the different ſtreams of water, add greatly to the land-

ſcape,

ſcape, and render it equal, if not ſuperior, in beauty and fertility to any north of the Tweed.

Oak wood ſells at	-	2s. to 2s. 6d. the foot.
Elm,	-	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. ditto.
Beech,	- -	1s. to 1s. 3d. ditto.
Aſh,	- -	1s. 6d. to 2s. ditto.
Scotch fir, full grown,		- 6d. ditto.
Young trees, ſuch as are uſed in coal pits, 3d. each.		

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

BEFORE the year 1785, the public and parochial roads in this diſtrict were in a moſt wretched ſituation. About that time the roads, all over the country, had fallen into ſuch a ſtate of diſrepair, as convinced every perſon concerned in this branch of police, that under the act of parliament 1669, which authoriſed the Commiſſioners of Supply to call out the inhabitants to work ſix days each year, together with their horſes and carts, it was impoſſible to make the roads in any degree tolerable. It was therefore agreed, at a county meeting, to apply to Parliament for a particular road act; and, accordingly, the bill was very ſoon after paſſed, by which the county was divided into diſtricts, and powers were granted to the Commiſſioners of Supply, in each diſtrict, to convert the ancient ſtatute labour, at the rate of twelve ſhillings for each ſixty acres of arable land. The gentlemen entruſted with the execution of this act of parliament, in that part of Perthſhire now under review, after a very attentive diſcharge of their duty for ſome years, found that in ſuch a deep clay ſoil it was impoſſible to make the public roads, leading from Perth towards Dundee, and to the harbours of Polgaire and Errol, without a much greater ſum than could be aſſeſſed under this laſt mentioned act of parliament.

The

The gentlemen of the Carſe of Gowrie diſtrict being at laſt perfectly ſatisfied, that without procuring a turnpike bill, all their exertions to make good roads would be in vain; they repreſented, at the county meetings, the neceſſity of making another application to parliament, and in a ſhort time a turnpike act was procured, in which theſe, and other particular roads in the county, were included.

This bill was no ſooner paſſed, than the proprietors of this diſtrict agreed to open a ſubſcription for beginning this very important improvement. Accordingly a ſubſcription of upwards of 3000l. was very ſoon filled up, and the work begun; and ſome time ago entirely completed, much to the credit of the proprietors, and not leſs to the eaſe and comfort of the inhabitants.

The great road leading through this county, from Perth towards Dundee, and the branches leading to the harbours of Polgaire, Errol, and Inchbyra, meaſure twenty-four miles; and when finiſhed, with all the neceſſary bridges, and including the purchaſe of ſome land, where it was neceſſary to form ſome new lines of road, coſt 13,000l. or 541l. 13s. 4d. each mile.

Since the turnpike roads were finiſhed, the Commiſſioners of Supply of this diſtrict have paid particular attention to the croſs-roads, and there is little doubt but the whole of the roads, in this corner, will ſoon be equal to any in Scotland.

In order to evince the importance of this improvement in an agricultural view, it ſhould be obſerved, that it was very common to ſend the grain to be ſhipped at Polgaire and Errol on horſeback, and three or four firlots of barley was the ordinary load; and that now it is not extraordinary to ſee ten bolls of barley carried on a cart drawn by two horſes.

It may juſt be neceſſary to add, that a road from Longforgan, by Polgaire to Errol, and from thence to the turnpike-road near the church of St. Madoes, would be the means of

opening

opening a communication from that part of the diſtrict, called the Low Carſe, to the towns of Perth and Dundee; and from the preſent active ſpirit of the truſtees, which is aided by the principal farmers, who are now convinced of the great advantage of good roads, there is no doubt but this very important object will ſoon be attained; as it ſeems to be the opinion of both proprietors and tenants, that application ſhould be made to Parliament for leave to borrow money for executing this work, upon the ſecurity of the ſums annually collected, in lieu of the ſtatute labour, from the tenants who reſide in the neighbourhood of that line of road.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS AND HINTS

FOR

IMPROVEMENT.

IT has already been obſerved, that previous to the year 1735, this diſtrict was diſfigured with many large pools of water. The only lake now remaining is the Qua, from whence iſſues a ſtream which ſupplies the mill of Errol. This lake may cover upwards of thirty acres of rich clay land, highly ſuſceptible of cultivation, without regarding a conſiderable extent around it, ſo much on a level with its ſurface, as to be injured by every flood. Since the year 1760 very conſiderable ſums have been expended in enlarging the courſes of the different ſtreams which run from the hills through the plain. But as on all theſe ſtreams there are mills for grinding grain, ſituated near the ſhore of the Frith, it is obvious, that as long as theſe mills remain, a complete drainage cannot be effected; for in every flood the water is repelled in its courſe, and overflows its banks; where, in a country ſo level, very conſiderable damage is always done to the adjoining fields, particularly in the ſeed-time and harveſt. At the period when theſe mills were erected, and when the roads were in a manner impaſſable, they were no doubt conſidered, and juſtly, as a great improvement. But now, when there are one or more on every one of theſe ſtreams, at the bottom of the hills, and ſome one or other of them ſituated within three miles of every farm in the Carſe, the utility of keeping up theſe other mills, at leaſt beyond the extent of rent paid for them, muſt be entirely done away.

It is not, however, to be ſuppoſed, that the proprietors will ſacrifice their intereſt, by throwing down theſe mills, without

receiving from the other proprietors, whoſe eſtates lie along the banks of theſe ſtreams, ſuch compenſation as will indemnify them for the loſs which they would thereby ſuſtain. But as thirlage is now entirely aboliſhed in every other part of the diſtrict, the buſineſs might be eaſily arranged here, and the ſtill greater improvement of the country be thereby effected.

In the low part of this country, and on the braes of the Carſe, where the cultivation of grain is the principal object of the farmer, incloſing of land is not deemed an improvement; and, indeed, in a country ſo well ſheltered by nature, there ſeems little occaſion for any that can be obtained by art.

In the higher and more expoſed parts of the diſtrict, it is certain that incloſing with ſubſtantial ſtone fences, and planting ſtrips and clumps of trees in proper ſituations, would improve the climate, and greatly increaſe the value of the land. Some of the proprietors, who have eſtates in that part of the country, have ſhewn a very laudable example; and there is reaſon to hope that their neighbours will ſoon follow ſo good a pattern; in which caſe, in a few years, every acre now under review will be cultivated with the plough, or covered with ornamental and uſeful trees. It may be proper to add, that in this part of the diſtrict a hundred acres may, in general, be incloſed and ſubdivided, as follows:

and 62 Links.	31 Chains,	and 62 Links.	and 62 Links;
	Total contents	A. R. F. 99 3 37	
31 Chains,			31 Chains,
	31 Chains,	and 62 Links.	

31 chains and 62 links, multiplied by eight, the number of lines of diviſion, gives 252 chains and 96 links, or 6,240 yards running meaſure; which, at 24 yards for the rood, gives 260 roods of fence, maſon meaſure, and calculating the fence at $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet of height.

The expence of quarrying and carrying ſtone, and building, may be done at 1s. 3d. the running yard, or 30s. the rood of maſon meaſure. The total expence of incloſing one hundred acres, by the above account, comes to 390l. If the lands are benefited 10s. the acre, the proprietor gains 30l. 10s. yearly, after allowing 5 per cent. for the ſum expended on incloſing the farm.

It is, therefore, obvious, that the incloſing of the high lands in this diſtrict muſt be advantageous to the proprietors, and beneficial to the country at large.

Upon

Upon the whole, from this Report it will appear, that the modes of cultivation, and the manner in which the operations of huſbandry are carried on, are equal to what is to be found in any other part of the kingdom. What farther improvements may yet remain to be introduced, it is impoſſible at preſent to ſay. But there can be no doubt that, from the intelligence, induſtry, and ſteady application which the farmers in this diſtrict poſſeſs, ſuch improvements, when introduced, are as likely to be carried into general practice here, as in any country in Great Britain.

Fiars of the Shire of Perth for the Crops 1785 and 1792, and the intermediate Crops and years.

Years.	Wheat beſt ſort.			Wheat ſecond ſort.			Bear beſt ſort.			Bear ſecond ſort.			Oats beſt ſort.			Oats ſecond ſort.			Peaſe.			Rye.			Meal by weight.			Meal by meaſure.		
	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.	£.	S.	D.
1785	1	0	3	0	18	6	0	15	0	0	13	4	0	12	0	0	10	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	0	14	0	0	15	0
1786	0	19	6	0	18	6	0	15	6	0	14	0	0	13	9	0	11	9	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	15	3	0	15	6
1787	1	1	0	0	19	6	0	14	0	0	12	2	0	13	0	0	11	6	0	11	0	0	13	0	0	14	0	0	14	10
1788	1	1	6	1	0	0	0	12	0	0	10	0	0	10	9	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	11	6	0	11	0
1789	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	16	0	0	14	0	0	13	6	0	10	6	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	14	0	0	14	6
1790	1	2	9	1	1	3	0	15	0	0	13	4	0	13	0	0	10	9	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	14	8	0	15	2
1791	1	1	0	0	19	6	0	17	8	0	15	8	0	14	0	0	12	0	0	12	6	0	12	6	0	15	0	0	15	6
1792	1	1	0	0	19	6	0	19	0	0	17	9	0	13	0	0	10	6	0	15	0	0	15	0	0	17	4	0	18	0